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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):	Richard Richley et al.)
Application No.	10/518,423)
Filed:	December 17, 2004) Group Art Unit: 3774
For:	DEVICES AND METHODS FOR MINIMALLY INVASIVE TREATMENT OF DEGENERATED SPINAL DISCS)
Examiner:	Alvin J. Stewart) Attorney Docket No. <u>TDYNE-305</u>

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT UNDER RULE 116

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Sir:

This communication is submitted in response to the Office Action dated April 27, 2009 on the above-identified application. Reconsideration of this application is requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this document.